



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

201 East Colfax Avenue [Central Office 303.866.6600]
Denver, Colorado 80203-1704 • www.cde.state.co.us

William J. Moloney
Commissioner of Education

Roscoe Davidson
Deputy Commissioner

Memorandum

To: All charter schools eligible to receive a Public Charter School Program grant

From: Denise Mund

Date: May 28, 2003

Re: Colorado Public Charter School Grant Program (PCSP) Changes

Several new changes will be implemented in the grant program this fall; this memorandum is to help you prepare.

First, there will be a mandatory training for all PCSP applicants on August 8, 2003 at Bromley East Charter School in Brighton. The training will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., lunch included. The only place to obtain an Intent to Submit form will be at this required training. No charter school will be able to submit a grant application if they do not have at least one person in attendance at the training. No exceptions will be granted. Dissemination grant applicants should plan on attending the entire day; there will be a pull-out session for just dissemination grant applicants in the afternoon.

Second, we will begin more closely examining student enrollment lottery policies. We will be looking for the following information:

- Does the policy note the date of the first, and thereafter, annual lottery date?
- How was the notice for the lottery publicized?
- Was a lottery conducted for students between the 10% allowable for founding families/sibling/staff students and the school's 100% capacity? What was the date that lottery was conducted?

Conducting a lottery for preschool slots that guarantees enrollment into Kindergarten is not acceptable for any Kindergarten students. PCSP funds are only for K-12 education. The 10% that is allowed for founding families/siblings/staff students does not mean 10% founding families, x% siblings or staff kids (a weighted pool) on top of the 10% limit. The lottery must be conducted at least yearly; a wait list may be created from a random selection process that may be used to fill openings that develop during the school year. There can not be any enrollment priorities in the lottery. Further information on the lottery is in the federal Nonregulatory Guidance at:
http://www.uscharterschools.org/pub/uscs_docs/fr/pcsp_guidance.htm

Third, public school conversions must meet the definition of a public charter school as defined by Title V of the No Child Left Behind Act, Part B, Subpart 1, Section 5210.

Fourth, the highest amount that a charter school may request will be: \$375,000 for first year startup grants, \$300,000 for second year implementation funds, and \$225,000 for third year implementation funds. These caps in no way indicate a level of expected funding.

The new grant calendar is on the CDE website at:

www.cde.state.co.us/index_charter.htm I expect to have the new RFPs on the web in July.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please feel free to contact me at either 303-866-6740 or Mund_D@cde.state.co.us